THE PHANTOM™
#5
MOONSTONE™
$3.50
Rafael Nieves
Jerry DeCaire

THE PHANTOM

created by LEE FALK

"DAMNATION GAME"

PART ONE OF TWO

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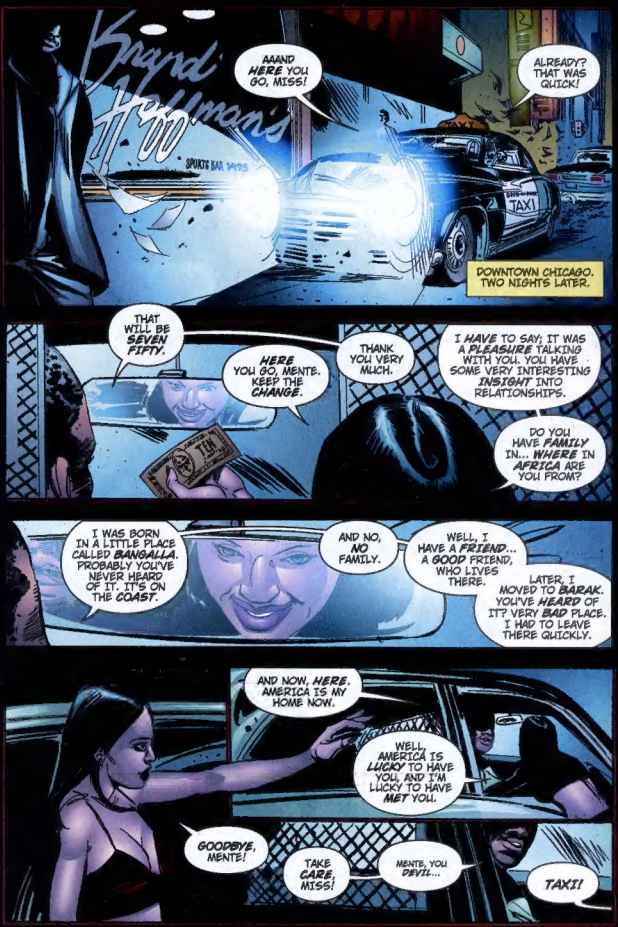
DONUT DELIGHT
LET ME TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW ABOUT WOMEN...
CHICAGO. 11 PM. SIX MONTHS AGO.
TAXI
AW, MENTE, NOT THAT AGAIN! GEEZ, MAN, WHO YOU THINK YOU ARE, WILT CHAMBERLAIN?
MURRAY, I TELL YOU THE TRUTH. WHETHER YOU BELIEVE ME IS NOT IMPORTANT, OKAY?
NOW, LISTEN TO ME, MY BABIES, WHILE I TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW, YES?
WOMEN. I DON'T CARE IF THEY ARE AFRICAN OR AMERICAN OR WHATEVER. WOMEN ALL LOVE TO BE LOVED.
THEY NEED TO FEEL THEY ARE THE ONLY IMPORTANT THING TO A MAN. THAT'S IT. THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW.
YOU TELL THEM, MENTE!
YOUNG LADY, YOU TELL ME, DOES YOUR MAN TREAT YOU LIKE THE GODDESS YOU ARE?
NOT LIKE HE SHOULD, BUT HE TRIES!
OH, WHATEVER, DUDE...
OH, LOOK OUT, NOW.

DING!
MENTE OLALLA, YOU ARE AN INCURABLE ROMANTIC.
I JUST TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW. LEARN FROM ME AND YOUR WIFE WILL LOVE YOU.
OH, I CAN'T HAVE THAT HAPPEN!
SEE YOU TOMORROW.
HASSAN, MY FRIEND! ANOTHER LARGE, EXTRA CREAM AND SUGAR, PLEASE. I HAVE A LONG NIGHT BEFORE ME.
YOU ARE NOT GOING HOME?
DING DING!
NO, MAN. I HAVE TO WORK FOR A LIVING!
THANK YOU. KEEP THE CHANGE.
HELP YOU?
YES, A GLAZED DOUGHNUT, MEDIUM COFFEE, BLACK. TO GO.
RIGHT AWAY.
PTOO!

YOUR CHANGE.
THANK YOU, MY FRIEND. AH SALAAM ALEYKIM.
ALEYKIM SALAAM.*
*TRADITIONAL MUSLIM GREETING.
...NO...
HELLO.
DING DING!
THE DRAGON...

VROOOM!
MAN, HE FORGOT HIS CHANGE.
CALL THAT MAN BEFORE HE LEAVES, YES, MENTE?
...MENTE?
NO... IT CANNOT BE...
HEY, CAN YOU HEAR ME? MENTE?
THAT MAN...
MENTE, WHAT'S WRONG?
YES, HE FORGOT HIS CHANGE, YOU IDIOT, THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU TO GET HIM. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
...I...
BLARRGH!
HEY, MAN!
...UH, TOO MUCH CREAM AND SUGAR?


Brandi Hoffman's
SPORTS BAR, WINE
AAAND HERE YOU GO, MISS!
ALREADY? THAT WAS QUICK!
TAXI
DOWNTOWN CHICAGO. TWO NIGHTS LATER.
THAT WILL BE SEVEN FIFTY.
HERE YOU GO, MENTE. KEEP THE CHANGE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
I HAVE TO SAY; IT WAS A PLEASURE TALKING WITH YOU. YOU HAVE SOME VERY INTERESTING INSIGHT INTO RELATIONSHIPS.
DO YOU HAVE FAMILY IN... WHERE IN AFRICA ARE YOU FROM?
I WAS BORN IN A LITTLE PLACE CALLED BANGALLA. PROBABLY YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT. IT'S ON THE COAST.
AND NO, NO FAMILY.
WELL, I HAVE A FRIEND... A GOOD FRIEND, WHO LIVES THERE.
LATER, I MOVED TO BARAK. YOU'VE HEARD OF IT? VERY BAD PLACE. I HAD TO LEAVE THERE QUICKLY.
AND NOW, HERE. AMERICA IS MY HOME NOW.
WELL, AMERICA IS LUCKY TO HAVE YOU, AND I'M LUCKY TO HAVE MET YOU.
GOODBYE, MENTE!
TAKE CARE, MISS!
MENTE, YOU DEVIL...
TAXI!

YO!
I SHOULD HAVE ASKED HER FOR HER TELEPHONE NUMBER, OR AT THE LEAST, HER NAME.
YOU'RE SLIPPING, MENTE.
GOOD EVENING, GENTLEMEN. THANK YOU FOR RIDING 'GOOD 'N FAST' TAXICAB. MY NAME IS MENTE, AND I WILL BE YOUR DRIVER.
YOU WANT TO TALK. I'LL TALK. YOU DON'T, I WON'T. WANT THE RADIO, JUST LET ME KNOW, BUT MOST IMPORTANT, WHERE YOU WANT TO GO?
YOU PAY THE FARE, I TAKE YOU TH--
WELL, MENTE, THIS TIME I THINK I'M GONNA TAKE YOU SOMEWHERE, AMIGO...
...STRAIGHT TO INFIERNO, COMPLIMENTS OF THE DRAGON.
AAAAAAAAAA

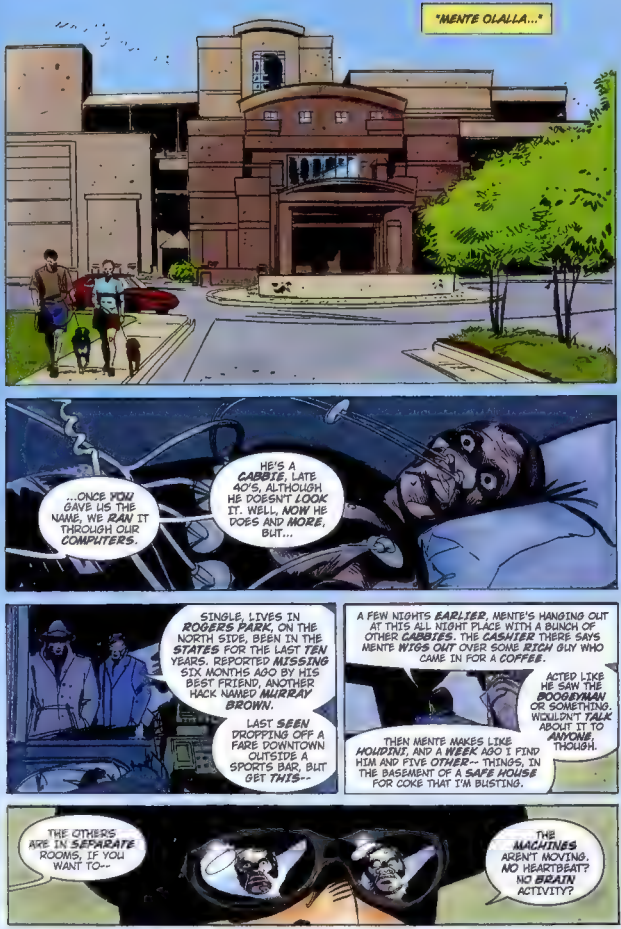
CHICAGO'S SOUTH SIDE.
ONE WEEK AGO.
BWAAM!
DEA!
FREEZE!
HANDS UP, HANDS UP!
GO, GO, GO, GO!
WHAT'S THAT SMELL?
HOLY--!
WHAT THE---?!
UH, AGENT PALMER?
YOU FIND THE COKE?
YEAH, BUT...
AND WHAT IS THAT STINK? SMELLS LIKE DEAD RATS!
WELL, YOU'D BETTER SEE THIS...
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS...

WHAT... WHAT ARE THEY?
LOOK AT THEM!
THEY LOOK LIKE... ZOMBIES!

JONES?
JONES!
...YEAH, DON...
LET'S, UH, LET'S RADIO THIS IN, OKAY?
...OKAY?!
AND CALL FOR AN AMBULANCE!
YEAH! YEAH, YEAH...
THE REST OF YOU GUYS, I WANT A COUPLE OF YOU TO GATHER UP THE EVIDENCE, AND I WANT THESE...
I WANT THESE GENTLEMEN SEARCHED FOR WEAPONS OR SOMETHING...
UH, AGENT PALMER, WHAT'S THAT? THAT MARK ON THE LITTLE GUY? ON HIS WRIST?
DEA
WHERE?! DON'T SEE ANYTHI--
...OH MY...
IT CAN'T BE...!
JONES! JONES, SEE IF YOU CAN SCARE UP A CAMERA!
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS.
THIS IS CRAZY!
I NEED A PHONE, DOES ANYBODY HAVE A PHONE?

WE'LL BE LANDING AT O'HARE IN APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MINUTES.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK? DIPLOMAT? FOREIGN DIGNITARY? OUTCAST REBEL LEADER? SCIENTIST?
I DON'T KNOW. CIA? FBI? MI6? ROGUE?
AND WHAT'S WITH THE DOG?
THAT'S NOT A DOG. IT'S A WOLF.
TELL YOU SOMETHING ELSE: I DON'T CARE WHAT OR WHO HE IS. I JUST HOPE HE'S ON OUR SIDE.
...'CAUSE THAT, MY FRIEND, IS ONE DANGEROUS MAN.
WE'RE BEGINNING OUR DESCENT, RUNNING INTO A LITTLE TURBULENCE.
IT'S GOING TO GET BUMPY...

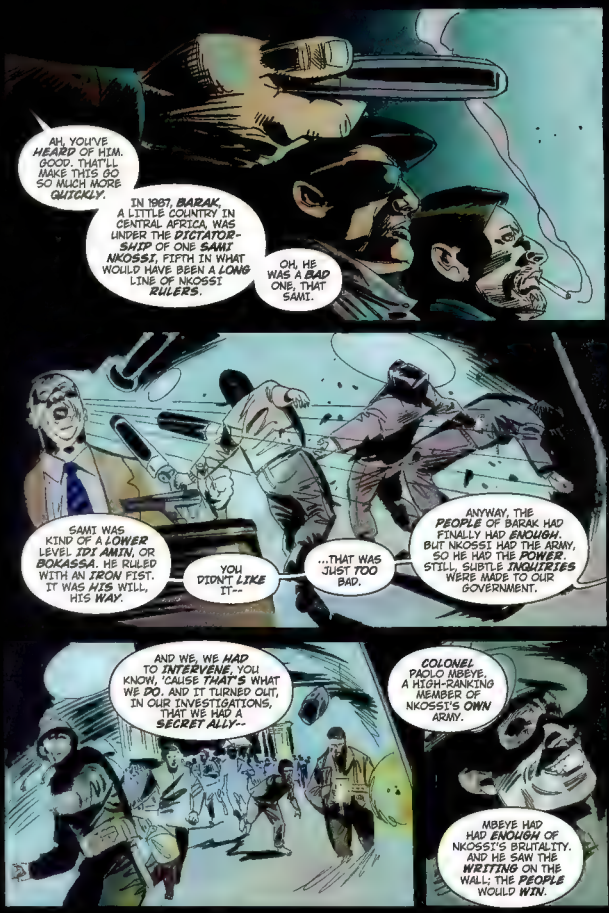
THIS IS GREAVES. THE PACKAGE IS DELIVERED. I REPEAT, THE PACKAGE IS DELIVERED.
UH, SIR, YOUR, UH, WOLF, IS CERTAINLY, UH, MAGNIFICENT AND, UH, I BET HIS BARK IS, UH, WORSE THAN HIS BITE, RIGHT? HEH-HEH, UH.
OH, NO, AGENT-- COUGHLIN, IS IT?-- I ASSURE YOU, DEVIL'S BARK AND HIS BITE ARE EQUALLY BAD.
OH...
THERE YOU ARE! HOW WAS THE FLIGHT? YOU BYPASSED CUSTOMS, YEAH? NO TROUBLE?
GOOD, GOOD. HOW'S MY BEAUTIFUL COUSIN?
THANKS FOR COMING ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE. I WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED IF--
DIANA IS FINE. SHE SENDS HER LOVE.
THE FLIGHT WAS FINE. NO, NO TROUBLE. YOUR AGENTS WERE VERY HELPFUL.
WHO IS THIS GUY?
I KNOW.
YOU NEED TO REST FOR A BIT? THAT JET ISN'T THE MOST COMFORTABLE; WE SEIZED IT FROM A COLUMBIAN DRUG LORD WHO'S NOW SERVING 20 TO LIFE IN SING SING. THE BULLET HOLES REALLY SCREW WITH THE AERODYNAMICS.
NO, I'M FINE. LET'S GET STARTED.


"MENTE OLALLA..."
...ONCE YOU GAVE US THE NAME, WE RAN IT THROUGH OUR COMPUTERS.
HE'S A CABBIE, LATE 40'S, ALTHOUGH HE DOESN'T LOOK IT. WELL, NOW HE DOES AND MORE, BUT...
SINGLE, LIVES IN ROGERS PARK, ON THE NORTH SIDE, BEEN IN THE STATES FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS. REPORTED MISSING SIX MONTHS AGO BY HIS BEST FRIEND, ANOTHER HACK NAMED MURRAY BROWN.
LAST SEEN DROPPING OFF A FARE DOWNTOWN OUTSIDE A SPORTS BAR. BUT GET THIS--
A FEW NIGHTS EARLIER, MENTE'S HANGING OUT AT THIS ALL NIGHT PLACE WITH A BUNCH OF OTHER CABBIES. THE CASHIER THERE SAYS MENTE WIGS OUT OVER SOME RICH GUY WHO CAME IN FOR A COFFEE.
ACTED LIKE HE SAW THE BOOGEYMAN OR SOMETHING. WOULDN'T TALK ABOUT IT TO ANYONE, THOUGH.
THEN MENTE MAKES LIKE HOUDINI, AND A WEEK AGO I FIND HIM AND FIVE OTHER-- THINGS, IN THE BASEMENT OF A SAFE HOUSE FOR COKE THAT I'M BUSTING.
THE OTHERS ARE IN SEPARATE ROOMS, IF YOU WANT TO--
THE MACHINES AREN'T MOVING. NO HEARTBEAT? NO BRAIN ACTIVITY?

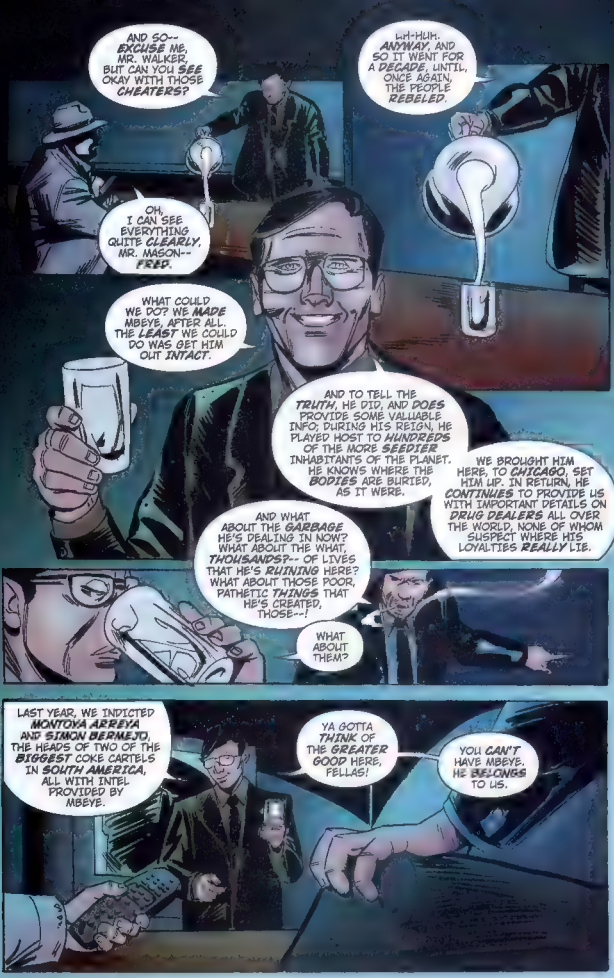
BEEP
THAT'S WHAT WE THOUGHT, BUT...
HANG ON A SEC, IT'S ALMOST TIME...
THERE! SEE IT?
ONE HEARTBEAT EVERY HOUR. ONE BREATH. VERY, VERY FAINT, BUT THERE.
THE DOCTORS AND I, WE DID A LITTLE DANCE WHEN WE DISCOVERED THAT. WE THOUGHT THESE GUYS WERE LIKE THE WALKING DEAD!
THEY ARE. THEY'RE ZUVEMBI. ZOMBIES.
LIVING BEINGS WHO ARE KILLED, THEN BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE, TO SERVE THEIR MASTER. THEY CANNOT FEEL, CANNOT BE HURT, CAN'T THINK FOR THEMSELVES.
THE PERFECT SLAVES.
UH, WHAT DO WE DO? WE HAVE TO TELL AGENT PALMER ABOUT THE VISITORS, RIGHT? SO, WE GOTTA GO IN THERE.
HERE'S THE THING, GRAVES; YOU WANNA GO IN THERE TO TELL PALMER, YOU BE MY GUEST.
ADMITTANCE
ME?
I LOVE LIFE MUCH TOO MUCH

SO, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO TO CURE THEM? CAUSE THIS IS BEYOND THE DOCTORS' MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE.
I DON'T KNOW. MY... EXPERIENCE WITH THIS IS LIMITED.
BRRREEP BRRREEP
PALMER... WHAT? ...WHEN? ...JUST THE TWO? ...OKAY, THANK YOU.
DOCTOR AT THE NURSE'S STATION. TWO OF THE... ZOMBIES HAVE JUST DIED, FOR REAL, THIS TIME.
SIGH
SO, YOU KNEW HIM, HUH? MENTE? FROM BANGALLA.
YES. A LONG TIME AGO. HE... SAVED THE PHANTOM'S LIFE.
BRRREEP BRRREEP
THE MARK ON HIS WRIST MEANS HE IS A FRIEND OF THE PHANTOM'S. IT'S A MARK OF PROTECTION.
WHAT?!
WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHO DID THIS. QUICKLY. BEFORE ANY MORE HARM CAN BE DONE.
WHAT, HERE...? OH, IS HE?
MENTE OJALLA IS A GOOD MAN. HE DIDN'T DESERVE THIS.
WHAT?!
OH, WE KNOW WHO DID IT.
THERE'S JUST ONE LITTLE PROBLEM WITH ARRESTING HIM...
AND WE KNOW WHERE THE BASTARD LIVES.

FRED MASON, STATE DEPARTMENT. NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DON. AND YOUR FRIEND HERE IS--?
MR. WALKER.
AH. AND HE'S WITH--?
NOT THE STATE DEPARTMENT.
HEH-HEH. OKAY. IT'S A PLEASURE, MR. WALKER...
SO, GENTLEMEN, IT SEEMS OUR PATHS HAVE CROSSED IN THIS... LAMENTABLE SITUATION. I--
WHAT PART OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT ARE YOU WITH, MR. MASON?
THE SECRET PART.
AND PLEASE, CALL ME FRED. AND I'LL CALL YOU...
MR. WALKER.
RIGHT.
MR. WALKER IS HERE AS A SPECIAL CONSULTANT TO THE DEA, FRED. HE HAS SOME KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST.
YES, I UNDERSTAND YOU PULLED SOME VERY HEAVY STRINGS TO BRING HIM HERE, DON. ALL THE WAY FROM AFRICA. VERY IMPRESSIVE.
I'M SORRY YOU'VE MADE SUCH A LONG TRIP FOR NOTHING, MR. WALKER. AS I'VE ALREADY TOLD AGENT PALMER, NUMEROUS TIMES, MY HANDS ARE TIED IN MATTERS CONCERNING THE GENTLEMAN YOU SEEK.
FRED, I'M SURE WE CAN WORK SOMETHI--
NO, DON. WE CAN'T.
WHO ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?
A GUEST OF OUR GOVERNMENT. HIS NAME IS--
PAOLO MBEYE! THE DRAGON OF BARAK!

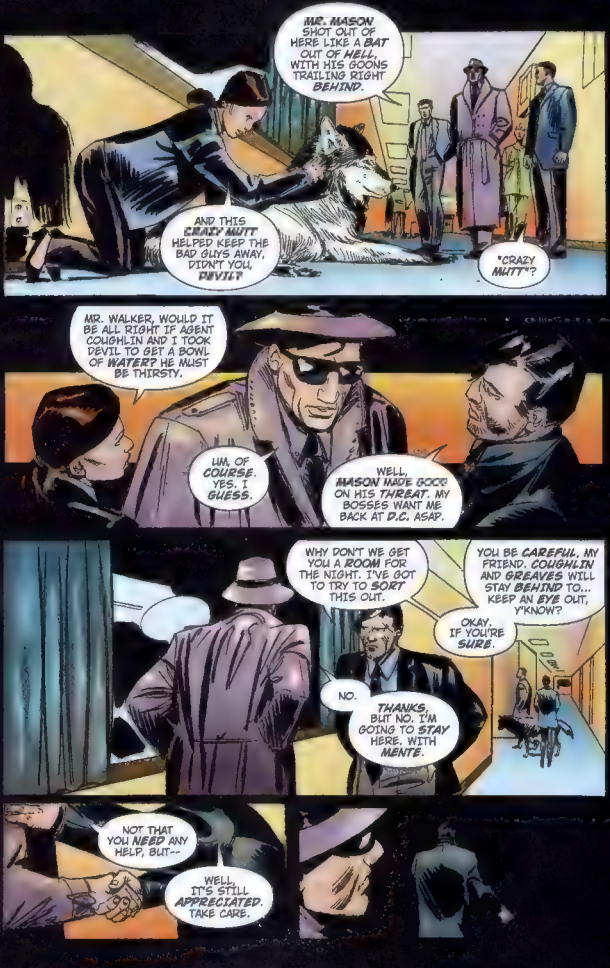

AH, YOU'VE HEARD OF HIM. GOOD. THAT'LL MAKE THIS GO SO MUCH MORE QUICKLY.
IN 1987, BARAK, A LITTLE COUNTRY IN CENTRAL AFRICA, WAS UNDER THE DICTATORSHIP OF ONE SAMI NKOSSI, FIFTH IN WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A LONG LINE OF NKOSSI RULERS.
OH, HE WAS A BAD ONE, THAT SAMI.
SAMI WAS KIND OF A LOWER LEVEL IDI AMIN, OR BOKASSA. HE RULED WITH AN IRON FIST. IT WAS HIS WILL, HIS WAY.
YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT--
...THAT WAS JUST TOO BAD.
ANYWAY, THE PEOPLE OF BARAK HAD FINALLY HAD ENOUGH. BUT NKOSSI HAD THE ARMY, SO HE HAD THE POWER. STILL, SUBTLE INQUIRIES WERE MADE TO OUR GOVERNMENT.
AND WE, WE HAD TO INTERVENE, YOU KNOW, 'CAUSE THAT'S WHAT WE DO. AND IT TURNED OUT, IN OUR INVESTIGATIONS, THAT WE HAD A SECRET ALLY--
COLONEL PAOLO MBEYE, A HIGH-RANKING MEMBER OF NKOSSI'S OWN ARMY.
MBEYE HAD HAD ENOUGH OF NKOSSI'S BRUTALITY. AND HE SAW THE WRITING ON THE WALL; THE PEOPLE WOULD WIN.

WE SENT IN A COUPLE DOZEN MEN, JUST TO HELP YOU KNOW, UNDER THE RADAR.
MBEYE WON.
YOU MEAN THE PEOPLE WON.
WHATEVER.
THE POINT IS, WE NOW HAD A FRIEND IN POWER. THE NEWLY APPOINTED PRESIDENT MBEYE OF THE FREE NATION OF BARAK.
UNTIL IT WENT BAD.
UNTIL IT WENT BAD.
SIX MONTHS IN, MBEYE HAD TASTED ENOUGH POWER TO KNOW THAT HE COULD NEVER GIVE IT UP. HE NAMED HIMSELF PRESIDENT FOR LIFE.
HE ALREADY HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE ARMY. ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS REOPEN BARAK'S BORDERS TO THE SAME ELEMENT THAT NKOSSI HAD CULTIVATED.
DRUG RUNNERS. COCAINE MANUFAC-TURERS.
YEP. AND AS A SPECIAL TREAT, MBEYE COULD OFFER HIS NEW ILLEGAL TENANTS AND TRANSIENTS A NEW KIND OF WORKER; ONE THAT WOULDN'T TRY TO SNORT UP ALL THE PROFITS.
ZOMBIES.
JUST SO. NONE OF OUR INITIAL INTEL ON MBEYE UNCOVERED THE FACT THAT HE WAS-- IS-- A PRACTICING HOUNGAN...
A VOODOO PRIEST.
OUR BAD.

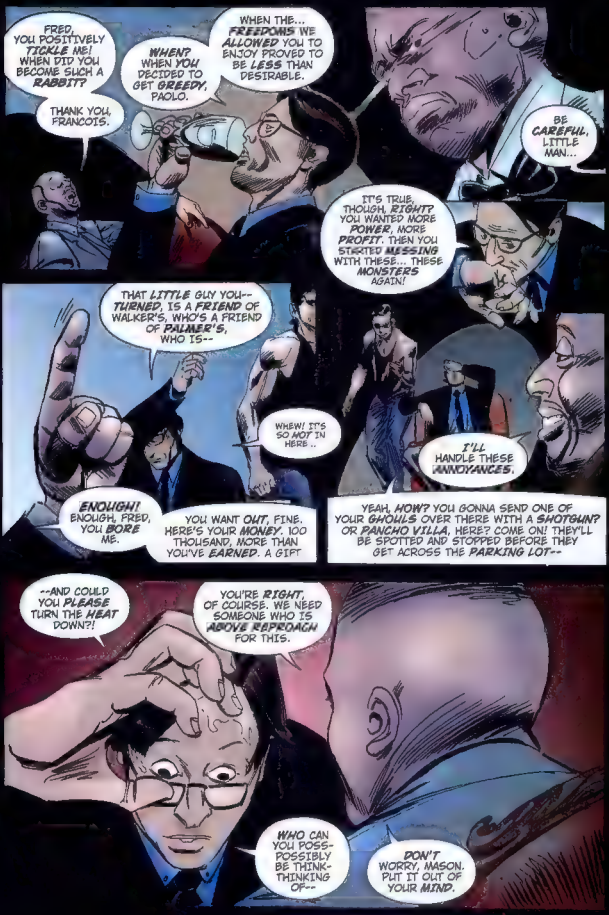

AND SO-- EXCUSE ME, MR. WALKER, BUT CAN YOU SEE OKAY WITH THOSE CHEATERS?
UH-HUH. ANYWAY, AND SO IT WENT FOR A DECADE, UNTIL, ONCE AGAIN, THE PEOPLE REBELED.
OH, I CAN SEE EVERYTHING QUITE CLEARLY, MR. MASON-- FRED.
WHAT COULD WE DO? WE MADE MBEYE, AFTER ALL. THE LEAST WE COULD DO WAS GET HIM OUT INTACT.
AND TO TELL THE TRUTH, HE DID, AND DOES PROVIDE SOME VALUABLE INFO; DURING HIS REIGN, HE PLAYED HOST TO HUNDREDS OF THE MORE SEEDIER INHABITANTS OF THE PLANET. HE KNOWS WHERE THE BODIES ARE BURIED, AS IT WERE.
WE BROUGHT HIM HERE, TO CHICAGO, SET HIM UP. IN RETURN, HE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE US WITH IMPORTANT DETAILS ON DRUG DEALERS ALL OVER THE WORLD, NONE OF WHOM SUSPECT WHERE HIS LOYALTIES REALLY LIE.
AND WHAT ABOUT THE GARBAGE HE'S DEALING IN NOW? WHAT ABOUT THE WHAT, THOUSANDS?-- OF LIVES THAT HE'S RUINING HERE? WHAT ABOUT THOSE POOR, PATHETIC THINGS THAT HE'S CREATED, THOSE--!
WHAT ABOUT THEM?
LAST YEAR, WE INDICTED MONTOYA ARREYA AND SIMON BERMEJO, THE HEADS OF TWO OF THE BIGGEST COKE CARTELS IN SOUTH AMERICA, ALL WITH INTEL PROVIDED BY MBEYE.
YA GOTTA THINK OF THE GREATER GOOD HERE, FELLAS!
YOU CAN'T HAVE MBEYE. HE BELONGS TO US.

BRRUP BRRUP
WHAT NOW?
THAT WOULD BE YOUR BOSSES, DON, CALLING YOU BACK TO WASHINGTON. NYAH-NYAH, MY AGENCY IS BIGGER THAN YOUR AGENCY.
EXCUSE ME, FRED?
HE SPEAKS
...YES, SIR. WE'RE HERE NOW... BUT, SIR!...
I'VE NOTICED YOU DRINK A LOT OF WATER.
YEAH, WELL, GOTTA KEEP THE SYSTEM CLEAN, YOU KNOW?
YOUR LIPS ARE DRY, YOU'RE EXPENDING A LOT OF NERVOUS ENERGY. ARE YOU SCARED OF SOMETHING?
HAH! WHAT?!
CATCH.
WHOOP!
SPLOOSH
ARE YOU INSANE!? THIS IS ITALIAN SILK!
IS IT? HARD TO SEE WITH THESE CHEATERS.
YOU'RE OUTTA HERE, BOTH OF YOU! MY MEN OUTSIDE WILL ESCORT YOU. AND IF YOU DON'T LEAVE QUIETLY, THEY'LL COME IN AND DRAG YOU OUT!
NO, FRED. I DON'T THINK SO...

"I DON'T THINK YOUR MEN ARE THAT STUPID."
RRRRRRRR
YEAH, I WOULDN'T PULL MY PIECE IF I WERE YOU.
GOOD DOGGIE!
YOU RUINED IT!
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.
I'M GOING TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN MENTE'S ROOM, WATCH OVER HIM. SEE IF I CAN HELP IN ANY WAY.
AND I WON'T BE HAPPY IF I'M DENIED ACCESS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?
FRED, DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?
YOU WILL BOTH BE VERY, VERY SORRY!


MR. MASON SHOT OUT OF HERE LIKE A BAT OUT OF HELL, WITH HIS GOONS TRAILING RIGHT BEHIND.
AND THIS CRAZY MUTT HELPED KEEP THE BAD GUYS AWAY, DIDN'T YOU, DEVIL?
"CRAZY MUTT"?
MR. WALKER, WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF AGENT COUGHLIN AND I TOOK DEVIL TO GET A BOWL OF WATER? HE MUST BE THIRSTY.
UM, OF COURSE. YES. I GUESS.
WELL, MASON MADE GOOD ON HIS THREAT. MY BOSSES WANT ME BACK AT D.C. ASAP.
WHY DON'T WE GET YOU A ROOM FOR THE NIGHT. I'VE GOT TO TRY TO SORT THIS OUT.
YOU BE CAREFUL, MY FRIEND. COUGHLIN AND GREAVES WILL STAY BEHIND TO... KEEP AN EYE OUT, Y'KNOW?
OKAY. IF YOU'RE SURE.
NO.
THANKS. BUT NO. I'M GOING TO STAY HERE. WITH MENTE.
NOT THAT YOU NEED ANY HELP, BUT--
WELL, IT'S STILL APPRECIATED. TAKE CARE.

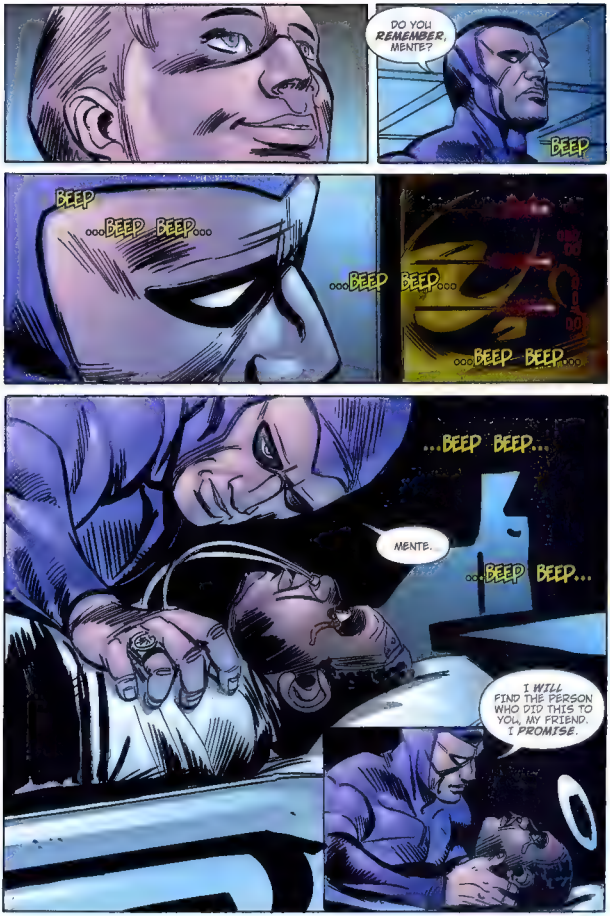
IT'S GONE SOUR, PAOLO...
I MEAN IT, MAN. WE HAVE HIT A MAJOR SNAFU!
FRED, FRED, FRED. AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, YOU STILL DON'T TRUST ME? YOU STILL UNDERESTIMATE ME?
NO, PAOLO, IT'S YOU WHO UNDERESTIMATES THE SITUATION! I WAS ASSIGNED AS YOUR HANDLER, AND I'VE DONE A PRETTY GOOD JOB, I THINK--
AN EXCELLENT JOB, MY FRIEND. SUPERB!
BUT THIS GUY, DON PALMER, HE'S LIKE A PIT BULL! HE'S GOT HIS TEETH IN THIS AND HE KEEPS GNAWING AWAY!
PAOLO, HE'S ASKING A LOT OF QUESTIONS!
LET'S HAVE A DRINK, YES? FRANCOIS!
YOU'VE BEEN QUERIED BEFORE ABOUT OUR... RELATIONSHIP. YOU'VE ALWAYS MANAGED TO... DIVERT ATTENTION AWAY FROM US.
BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT! DON'T YOU SEE?! THIS MAN--
AH, YES, THE MYSTERIOUS MR. WALKER. WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED?
NOTHING! MY USUAL SOURCES HAVE NO INTEL ON THE GUY, AND WHEN I TRY TO REACH OUT TO A HIGHER-UP, I'M TOLD THAT IT'S ALL "NEED-TO-KNOW", AND I DON'T NEED.
BUT HE'S DANGEROUS, PAOLO. HE SCARES ME.

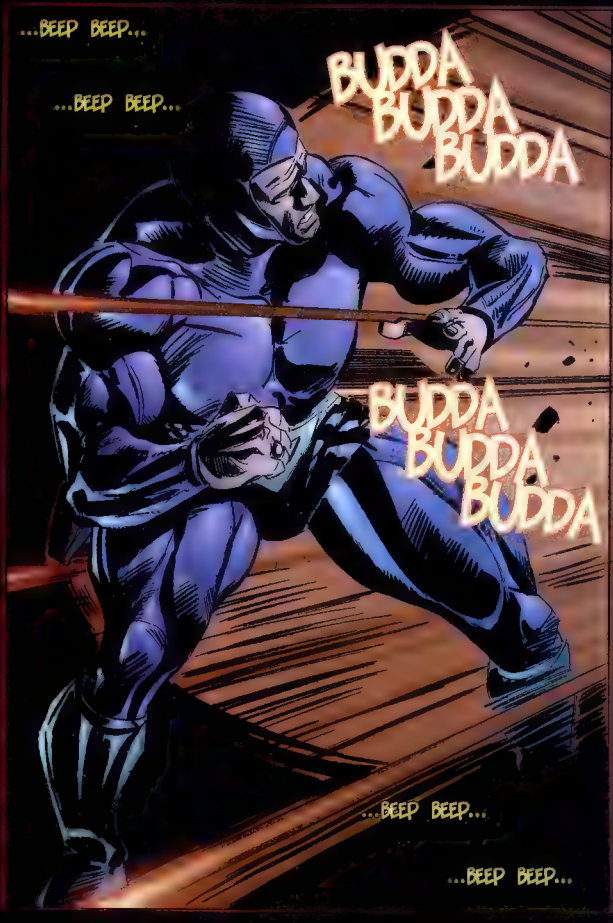

FRED, YOU POSITIVELY TICKLE ME! WHEN DID YOU BECOME SUCH A RABBIT?
THANK YOU, FRANCOIS.
WHEN? WHEN YOU DECIDED TO GET GREEDY, PAOLO.
WHEN THE... FREEDOMS WE ALLOWED YOU TO ENJOY PROVED TO BE LESS THAN DESIRABLE.
BE CAREFUL, LITTLE MAN...
IT'S TRUE, THOUGH, RIGHT? YOU WANTED MORE POWER, MORE PROFIT. THEN YOU STARTED MESSING WITH THESE... THESE MONSTERS AGAIN!
THAT LITTLE GUY YOU-- TURNED, IS A FRIEND OF WALKER'S, WHO'S A FRIEND OF PAULIE'S, WHO IS--
WHEW! IT'S SO HOT IN HERE...
I'LL HANDLE THESE ANNOYANCES.
ENOUGH! ENOUGH, FRED, YOU BORE ME.
YOU WANT OUT, FINE. HERE'S YOUR MONEY. 100 THOUSAND, MORE THAN YOU'VE EARNED. A GIFT
YEAH, HOW? YOU GONNA SEND ONE OF YOUR GHOULS OVER THERE WITH A SHOTGUN? OR PANCHO VILLA, HERE? COME ON! THEY'LL BE SPOTTED AND STOPPED BEFORE THEY GET ACROSS THE PARKING LOT--
--AND COULD YOU PLEASE TURN THE HEAT DOWN?!
YOU'RE RIGHT, OF COURSE. WE NEED SOMEONE WHO IS ABOVE REPROACH FOR THIS.
WHO CAN YOU POSS-- POSSIBLY BE THINK-THINKING OF--
DON'T WORRY, MASON. PUT IT OUT OF YOUR MIND.

MENTE...
MENTE OLALLA, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
DO YOU RECOGNIZE MY VOICE?
HELP ME TO HELP YOU, MENTE...
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
DO YOU REMEMBER...?
YOU MUST FIGHT THIS.
YOU MUST REMEMBER...

HOLD 'IM!
NO ONE'S KEEPIN' US FROM OUR GOLD!
STAY BACK, KIT!
HEH-HEH!
!

SAY GOODNIGHT.
UHHH!
?
HAH!


DO YOU REMEMBER, MENTE?
BEEP
BEEP
...BEEP BEEP...
...BEEP
BEEP...
...BEEP BEEP...
...BEEP BEEP...
MENTE.
...BEEP BEEP...
I WILL FIND THE PERSON WHO DID THIS TO YOU, MY FRIEND. I PROMISE.


...BEEP BEEP...
...BEEP BEEP...
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
...BEEP BEEP...
...BEEP BEEP...

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TWO DIFFERENT WAYS TO GET
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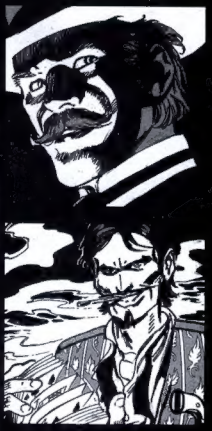

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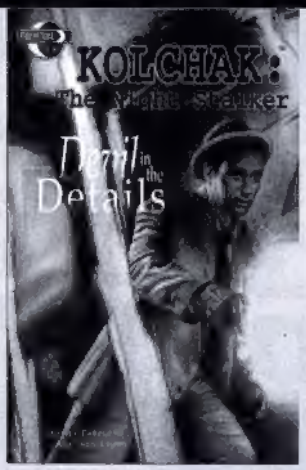

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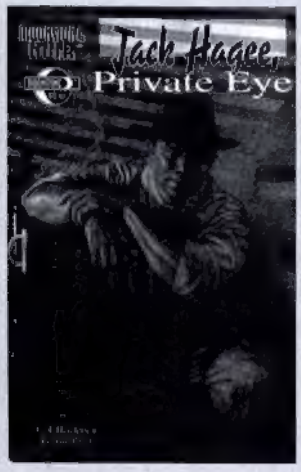

Hot & Heavy action

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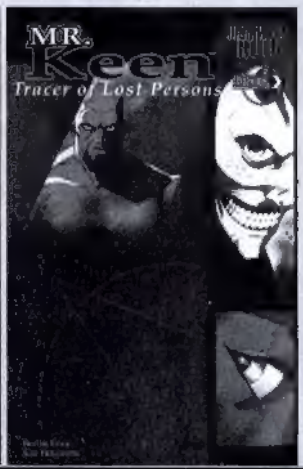
Like a gut full of lead



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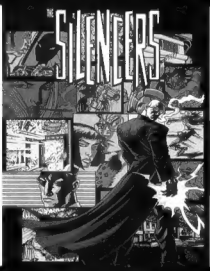

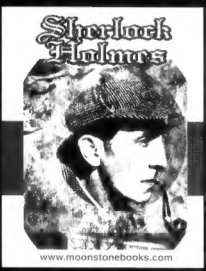

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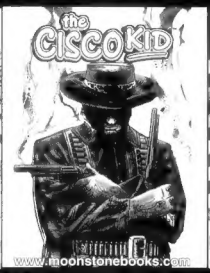

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